

## Rubric for the Poverty Compare/Contrast Essay on *hidden in America* and *make lemonade*

Categories for Grading	20	16	12	8	4
<p><b>ASSIGNMENT OBJECTIVES AND ORGANIZATION</b></p> <p>Your project follows the organization set out in your outlines, including an introduction, a thesis, two to three topic sentences, two to three body paragraphs, and a strong conclusion statement.</p> <p>You include the title and author or director of each text.</p> <p>You follow parallel structure and adhere to the order of texts that you set out in your introductory paragraph.</p>	<p>You include a clear thesis, comparing and contrasting both texts, detailed topic sentences about the similarities and differences, and conclusion statements about the lessons learned.</p> <p>You included the titles and author or director in your summaries.</p> <p>You consistently write about the characters and texts in parallel structure throughout the essay and in the conclusion sentences.</p>	<p>You have a clear thesis, comparing and contrasting both texts and a concluding statement about lessons, but the topic sentences do not explain the similarities and differences beyond what is already in the thesis.</p> <p>You included both titles but only one of the author's or director's names.</p> <p>You mostly follow parallel structure in your essay but not the conclusion.</p>	<p>You have a clear thesis, comparing and contrasting the two texts, but the topic and concluding sentences are confusing.</p> <p>You included only the titles of the texts.</p> <p>You follow parallel structure in two of the paragraphs.</p>	<p>Your thesis and topic and concluding sentences are all very vague and do not fully compare and contrast the texts or their lessons.</p> <p>You included one title and an author or director name.</p> <p>You follow parallel structure in one of the paragraphs.</p>	<p>You have only a vague thesis and no real topic or concluding sentences that connect to the thesis.</p> <p>You included only one title.</p> <p>You don't follow parallel structure in any paragraph.</p>
<p><b>EFFECTIVE QUOTES and EVIDENCE and SPECIFIC CONTENT</b></p> <p>You include a mix of important details and explanations about the books through quotes, textual examples, scene descriptions or narration that relate to theme and character transformation.</p>	<p>You have 6-8 quotes and 4 specific examples or scene descriptions with enough context and explanation to understand the speaker and meaning for each quote or scene.</p>	<p>You have 6-8 quotes and 2-4 specific scene descriptions but some of the quotes lack enough context or proper citation, so it is confusing to understand the quotes or scenes.</p>	<p>You have 3-5 quotes and 2-3 specific scenes. You provide the speaker but not enough context so the quotes are confusing.</p>	<p>You have 3-5 quotes and 1-2 scene descriptions but do not have any context or explanation for your quotes.</p>	<p>You have only 1 or 2 quotes, with vague scenes and limited context to explain the speaker and meaning.</p>
<p><b>UNDERSTANDING OF THE MAIN IDEA</b></p> <p>You include details about the authors' lesson or message about poverty.</p> <p>You have a thematic title and lead that relate to the lessons.</p>	<p>You have clearly explained the lesson of each text and have a title and lead sentence that connect to this lesson about poverty.</p>	<p>You have a clearly explained lesson of each text and a title that connects to this lesson but your lead is not clear enough.</p>	<p>You have a clearly explained lesson for one of the texts and a lead and title that connect to the lesson.</p>	<p>You have specific lessons for both texts but the title and lead do not connect to them.</p>	<p>You have only a vague lesson for a single text, with no title or lead that connects.</p>

<p><b>GRAMMAR AND MECHANICS AND FORMATTING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· You use correct grammar and formal language and proofread for spelling and capitalization.</li> <li>· You use complete sentences, not fragments.</li> <li>· You used the correct font, ink color and margins.</li> <li>· Your projects are typed (double-spaced); not hand-written and follow the MLA format, including the citation of author's name, book and movie titles, format of your page, line spacing, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>You have carefully proofread your project. You have no errors in grammar, spelling, sentence structure, mechanics, or MLA style.</p>	<p>You have 4 errors in grammar, spelling, sentence structure, mechanics, or MLA style.</p>	<p>You have 8 errors of grammar, spelling, sentence structure, mechanics, or MLA style.</p>	<p>You have 12 errors of grammar, spelling, sentence structure, mechanics, or MLA style.</p>	<p>You have 16 or more errors of grammar, spelling, sentence structure, mechanics, or MLA style.</p>
<p><b>VOCABULARY</b></p> <p>You include sophisticated vocabulary words, and avoid plain language like good, bad, things, stuff, fun, nice, and okay. You use rich, descriptive adjectives and vivid verbs. You also use clear and appropriate transition words, like first, second, finally, both, also, similarly, as well, however, as a matter of fact, in contrast, despite the fact, in conclusion, etc.</p>	<p>You use vivid verbs and descriptive adjectives and specific nouns and 3 appropriate and clear transition words.</p>	<p>You use simple and vague words 1-2 times and some of your transitions are unclear.</p>	<p>You use simple and vague words 3-4 times and your transitions are frequently unclear.</p>	<p>You use simple and vague language 5-6 times and your transitions are frequently unclear.</p>	<p>You use more than 7 vague words and do not have clear transition words.</p>